



# THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE · NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021



September 14, 1981

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
President  
The Rockefeller University

Dear Josh:

A group of us did some barnstorming in relation to the work of the panel on the Future of U. S. Military Research and Development of the Center for Strategic and International Studies and decided that our most effective initial role would be to focus emphasis on six or eight areas of basic research that could be so important for our defense in the coming decades that they should get special attention from our government. As a step in this direction we wish to prepare a brief report describing the nature of the areas and the promises they hold. Each of the sections would be of the order of five double-spaced typewritten pages.

The purpose of this letter is to ask if you would be ✓ willing to take the lead on such a brief paper in the area of Biotechnology. We trust that this would not be a significant ordeal since the principal matters will lie at the top of your head.

It would be our purpose to collect these early in October, review them with a small group in that month in order to achieve a reasonably consistent style and then review the report before the entire panel (as well as the authors) in November at a date yet to be chosen.

I hope you will be willing to do this. I would be glad to discuss the entire plan in more detail with you if you wish but in any case Bob Kupperman will be writing to the entire panel later in the month when the lead authors of the various parts of the report have agreed to participate.

Sincerely,

*Frederick Seitz*  
Frederick Seitz

cc: Dr. Robert Kupperman